

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are currently pending in the subject application, and are presently under consideration. Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10, 13-16, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 27 are rejected. Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17-19, 21, 23, 25, 26, 28, and 29 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the elements of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 13, 14, and 26 are objected to for various informalities. The informalities have been corrected according to the Examiner's suggestions and withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested. Additionally, a minor error was corrected in claim 22.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 11, which has been indicated as containing allowable matter. Claim 16 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 17, which has been indicated as containing allowable matter. Claim 26 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 28, which has been indicated as containing allowable matter. New claim 30 includes the subject matter of claim 1, claim 4, which has been indicated as containing allowable matter, and claim 2, upon which claim 4 depends. New claim 31 includes the subject matter of claim 1, claim 8, which has been indicated as containing allowable matter, and claim 6, upon which claim 8 depends. It is thus respectfully submitted that claims 1, 16, 26, 30, and 31 are allowable over the cited art.

Turning to the dependent claims, claims 11, 17, and 28 have been cancelled. Claims 18 and 19 have been amended to adjust their dependency from claim 17 to claim 16. New claims 32-34 have been added. Claims 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, and 12-15 depend from claim 1. Claims 18-25 depend from claim 16. Claims 27 and 29 depend from claim 26. Claims 32-34 depend from claim 31. It is respectfully submitted that claims 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12-15, 18-25, 27, 29, and 32-34 are allowable at least for the reasons for which their respective base claims are allowable, as well as for their respective unique elements.

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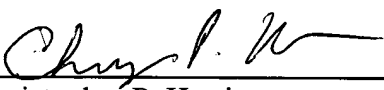
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and that the application be passed to issue.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 7-18-06



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